

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Cancelled).

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A method of profiling electronically-stored data, comprising:

accessing data from one or more data archives, said one or more data archives located on one or more electronic archive devices;

pre-filtering accessed data based on file content, content header information, and file meta-data, identified by the user to identify a pre-filtered file;

transferring a the pre-filtered file from said accessed data to a working electronic folder;

tagging the working electronic folder with folder meta-data;

processing the contents of said electronic folder, said step of processing including identifying whether a file within said electronic folder can be converted;

selecting a file that can be converted in said processing step; and

converting said selected file, said step of converting including

extracting file meta-data from said selected file into a corresponding meta-data file,

identifying a subset of text from said selected file;

extracting ~~a user-selectable portion~~ only the subset of text from said selected file into a corresponding selected text file,

creating an image of said selected file, and

appending the corresponding meta-data file to said image of said selected file to create an appended image file.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, further comprising:  
exporting one of said appended image file and said selected text file.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, further comprising a step of:  
displaying one of said steps of accessing, transferring, tagging, processing, selecting,  
and converting.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 4, wherein said step of  
displaying comprises:  
displaying a series of parent-child relationships between a file and an attachment to  
said file.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein said attachment  
comprises:  
a second attachment ~~attachment~~ attached to said attachment.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said folder  
metadata comprises:  
date created, last date opened, last date modified, creator name, matter name, and  
predetermined identification and quality control data.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of  
processing further comprises: identifying a duplication within said working electronic  
folder.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of processing further comprises: marking a file that cannot be converted as an exception file.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of transferring comprises:

transferring via a drag-and-drop user interface comprising one of a computer mouse and a pointing device.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said working electronic folder comprises:

a time-stamped audit file configured to record a file history spanning file creation to file destruction.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of processing further comprises one of:

checking a file for a virus;  
removing said virus from said file;  
checking said file for encoding or encryption;  
decoding or decrypting said file.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of processing further comprises:

performing page estimation and time stamping/digital authentication of said electronic folder.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein said step of identifying a duplication comprises:

identifying said duplication by a hash or another unique identifier.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein said file that cannot be processed comprises one of:

a file with a virus;  
an encrypted file;  
an unknown file-type; and  
a deselected file.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9, wherein said step of marking a file that cannot be converted comprises one of:

logging said exception file; and  
exporting said exception file.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein said step of identifying a duplication comprises:

identifying a duplication by an MD5 hash algorithm.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein said step of identifying a duplication comprises:

checking a duplicate file for a file corruption; and  
deleting or exporting a corrupted duplicate file.

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of converting comprises one of:

time stamping and digitally authenticating both the image and the file of extracted meta-data.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of converting comprises one of:

creating a searchable single master text file containing the contents of all selected files;

time stamping or digitally authenticating the searchable master text file; and  
appending selected meta-data about the files included in the master text file.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20, wherein said step of creating a single searchable master text file comprises:

creating one or more searchable subordinate text files containing the contents of an operator-selected subset of the selected files;

time stamping or digitally authenticating the one or more subordinate text files; and  
appending selected meta-data about the files included in the subordinate text files.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of extracting selected file meta-data comprises:

extracting one of file content data, content header information, file meta-data, file type information, and file characteristic data.

Claim 23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said selected file meta-data comprises:

predetermined categories of meta-data corresponding to a file-type.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein said step of time stamping comprises:

time stamping with one of UTC time and another predetermined time zone.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of extracting only the subset~~a user-selectable portion~~ of text comprises:

creating an ASCII file of said ~~user-selectable portions~~subset of text.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 25, wherein said step of extracting only the subset~~a user-selectable portion~~ of text further comprises:

converting said image of said selected file to text with an OCR program if an ASCII file cannot be created.

Claim 27. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of extracting only the subset~~a user-selectable portion~~ of text comprises:

searching for a key word.

Claim 28. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of extracting only the sub~~set~~~~a user-selectable~~~~portion~~ of text comprises:

extracting a portion of text around said keyword.

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of processing comprises:

processing with a prioritization scheme keyed to file type.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of processing with a prioritization scheme comprises:

processing with a plug-in module.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, wherein said step of processing with a plug-in module comprises:

processing with a plug-in module configured to be selected to be 'ON' or 'OFF.'

Claim 32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, wherein said step of processing with a plug-in module comprises;

processing with a plug-in module configured to have a user-selectable priority.

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of processing with a prioritization scheme keyed to file type comprises at least one of:

identifying a file type extension; and

evaluating a binary file header.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein said step of processing with a prioritization scheme keyed to file type comprises one of:

identifying said file type extension and evaluating the binary header when the file type extension is unknown; and

evaluating the binary header, and if there is a conflict between the binary header and the file-type extension, one of the binary header or the file-type extension is considered a default first choice, either arbitrarily or based on a predetermined logic keyed to a predetermined file type.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, wherein said step of processing with a plug-in module comprises one of:

processing with a plug-in configured to open multiple file types;

processing with multiple plug-ins configured to open a single file-type;

processing with a plug-in created by incorporating a library of a commercially available software product; and

processing with a plug-in comprising a library of programming code that incorporates functionality of a third party library or an application to load, image and extract metadata from a document.

Claim 36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29, wherein said step of processing with a prioritization scheme keyed to file type comprises:

reading a file that is not correlated to a plug-in or a file that cannot be read by a plug-in with an AutoVue plug-in.



Claim 37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 36, wherein said step of processing with a prioritization scheme keyed to a file type comprises:

reading a file that cannot be processed by the AutoVue plug-in by using a Microsoft Windows File Type Association and accessing a Windows registry to determine if a "print" verb is associated with the extension in windows;

if said "print" verb is found to be associated with the extension, starting a new Windows process with said "print" verb as startup information and feeding the output of said new Windows process to an imaging print driver.

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of creating an image of said selected file comprises:

imaging with a TIFFing driver.

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said step of exporting comprises:

exporting to at least one of an image viewer, a printer, and a computer configured to search the corresponding meta-data or a master file text content.

Claim 40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein said step of exporting comprises:

exporting a file comprising a predetermined litigation support software file type.

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, wherein said predetermined litigation support software file type comprises one of:

an IPRO file type, an Opticon file type, a Concordance file type, a Summation file type, a Ringtail file type, a Microsoft Access file type, and a data management file type.

Claims 42-43. (Canceled).

Claim 44. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 42, wherein said step of pre-filtering comprises:

saving said pre-filtering criteria.

Claim 45. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of accessing comprises:

accessing an email or instant messaging archive.

Claim 46. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein said step of accessing an email or instant message archive comprises:

accessing a printable attachment of an email or instant message.

Claim 47. (Currently Amended) A system for profiling electronically-stored data, comprising:

means for accessing data from one or more data archives, said one or more data archives located on one or more electronic archive devices;

means for pre-filtering accessed data based on file content, content header information, and file meta-data, identified by the user to identify a pre-filtered file;

means for transferring a the pre-filtered file from said accessed data to a working electronic folder;

means for tagging the working electronic folder with folder meta-data;

means for processing the contents of said electronic folder, said step of processing including identifying whether a file within said electronic folder can be converted;

means for selecting a file that can be converted in said processing step; and

means for converting said selected file, said step of converting including

means for extracting selected file meta-data from said selected file into a corresponding meta-data file,

means for identifying a subset of text from said selected file;

means for extracting ~~a user-selectable portion~~ the subset of text from said selected file into a corresponding selected text file,

means for creating an image of said selected file, and

means for appending the corresponding meta-data file to said image of said selected file to create an appended image file.

Claim 48. (Currently Amended) A computer program product including instructions configured to control a computer so as to profile electronically-stored data, said instructions comprising instructions for:

accessing data from one or more data archives, said one or more data archives located on one or more electronic archive devices;

pre-filtering accessed data based on file content, content header information, and file meta-data, identified by the user to identify a pre-filtered file;

transferring ~~a~~ the pre-filtered file from said accessed data to a working electronic folder

tagging the working electronic folder with folder meta-data;

processing the contents of said electronic folder, said step of processing including identifying whether a file within said electronic folder can be converted; selecting a file that can be converted in said processing step; and converting said selected file, said step of converting including extracting selected file meta-data from said selected file into a corresponding meta-data file,  
identifying a subset of text from said selected file;  
extracting ~~a user-selectable portion~~ the subset of text from said selected file into a corresponding selected text file,  
creating an image of said selected file, and  
appending the corresponding meta-data file to said image of said selected file to create an appended image file.